

REMARKS

In the specification, the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 4, has been amended to include a cross reference to Application No. 09/660,649 and to reference U.S. Patent No. 6,536,176 B1, which has issued from related Application No. 09/421,031.

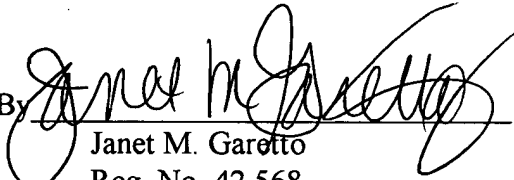
Claim 1 remains in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 2-63 have been cancelled and new claims 64-101 have been added. Thus, claims 1 and 64-101 are pending in this Application. Applicants believe that the pending claims are in a condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner pass the pending claims to issuance.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Check no. 151949 is enclosed for \$1,126.00 to cover the filing fee and the fee for additional claims. The Commissioner is authorized to deduct any additional fees required (except for payment of the issue fee) from or to credit any overpayment to Jenkins & Gilchrist, P.C. Deposit Account No. 10-0447, Order No. 47099-00153USC1. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 19, 2004

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